



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

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ASTATKE *et al.*

FEB 28 2002

Appl. No.: 09/608,066

Filed: June 30, 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: Taylor, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4990001/RWE/BJD

For: **Compositions and Methods for
Enhanced Sensitivity and Specificity
of Nucleic Acid Synthesis**

Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended one month from January 25, 2002 to February 25, 2002, by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$110.00 for a one month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying Check No. 34291. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: February 25, 2002

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02/26/2002 MGE BREM1 00000092 09608066

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